

Herald Tribune

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NATO Is Divided On When to Tell Of Warhead Plan

By Walter Pincus Washington Post Service BONN — A still-secret decision to withdraw the 20-year-old Nike Hercules anti-aircraft atomic warheads from Western Europe has produced a disagreement within NATO over when the decision should be made public.

There also was hope, voiced by several NATO officials, that the Nike Hercules warheads could somehow be worked in as bargaining chips in the coming theater arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Strikers in Poland Resist Appeals By Parliament and Union Leaders

Warsaw — Solidarity union activists said Sunday that strikes in many regions of Poland would continue despite a demand from parliament, appeals by union leaders and a warning that the government could be given emergency powers.

Parliament on Saturday acceded to the wishes of Premier Wojciech Jaruzelski, and passed a resolution appealing for an immediate halt to strikes.

Antigua Accorded Its Independence, Ending 3 Centuries of Rule by Britain

ST. JOHNS, Antigua — The small Caribbean island nation of Antigua gained its independence from Britain on Sunday, ending nearly 350 years of British rule.



BL STRIKE TALKS — Len Murray, the head of the Trades Union Congress, above, and Sir Michael Edwards, the chairman of BL, arrive for talks aimed at averting a strike.

Mubarak Says Problems at Home, Not Abroad, Now His Main Priority

By Howard Simons and David B. Ottaway Washington Post Service CAIRO — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak says that he would seek reconciliation at home with the political opposition of his slain predecessor, Anwar Sadat, while taking limited steps abroad to establish détente with the assassinated president's adversaries in the Arab world.

Israel Warns of Danger To Camp David Process If U.S. Heeds Saudi Plan

By William Claiborne Washington Post Service JERUSALEM — Israel has begun to intensify pressure on the Reagan administration to distance itself from the eight-point Saudi peace proposals, with Prime Minister Menachem Begin sending President Reagan a detailed and strongly worded condemnation of the Saudi plan and warning that expressions of interest in it could impede the Camp David process.

U.S.-Saudi Plan Said To Provide for Bases

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration's decision to sell AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia foreshadows a "grand defense strategy for the Middle East oil fields" involving "surrogate bases" in Saudi Arabia, equipped and ready for use by U.S. forces if needed, The Washington Post reported Sunday.



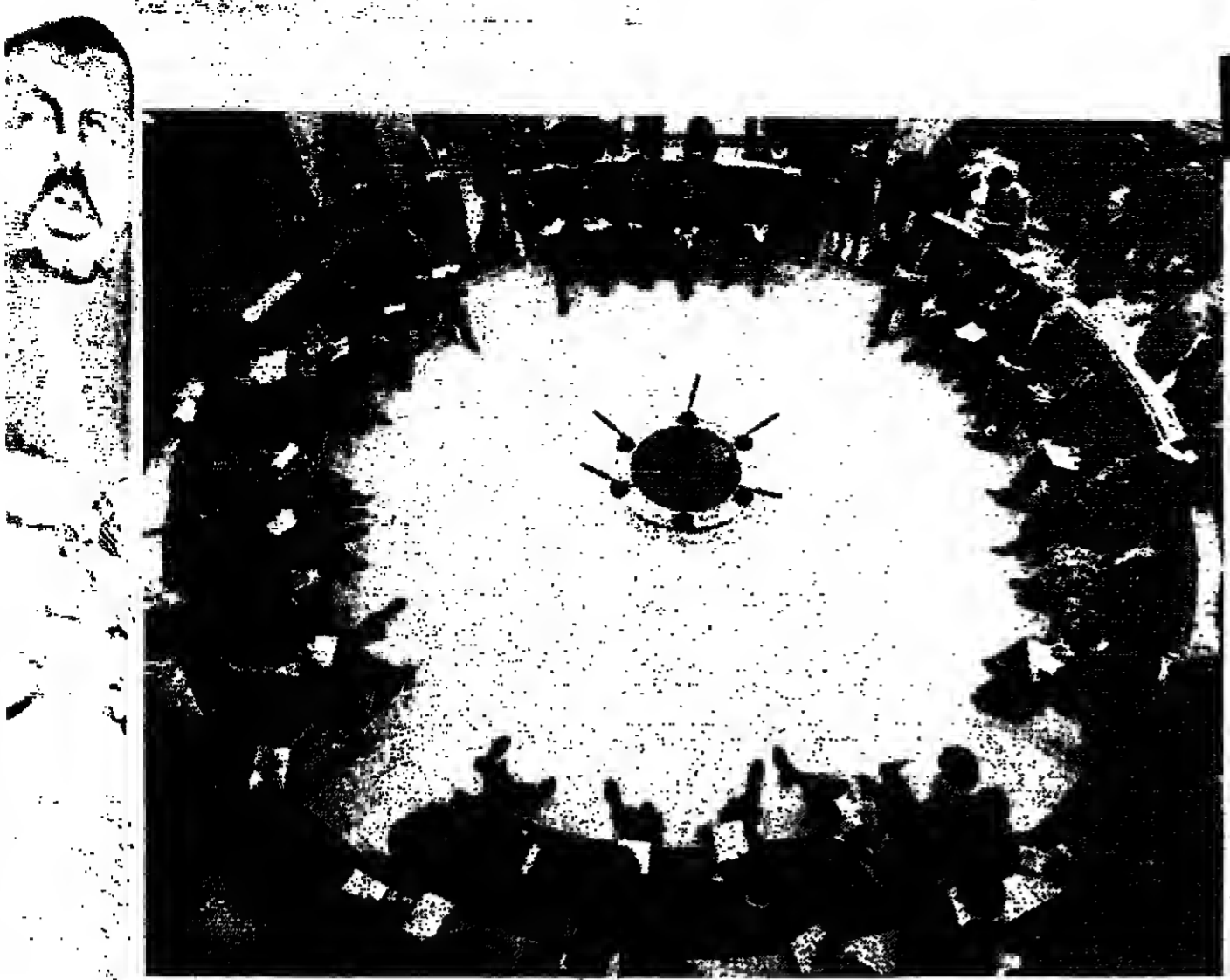
Cmdr. Karl Andersson of the Swedish Navy, carrying a map, returns from visit to grounded sub.

Sweden Awaits Captain's Decision On Explaining Grounding of Sub

STOCKHOLM — Sweden expects the Soviet Union to permit the captain of a stranded Soviet submarine to leave his vessel and explain what it was doing when it ran aground in Swedish waters last week, diplomatic sources said Sunday.

INSIDE

Tunisian Election Tunisians voted Sunday in their first multiparty general election since the country became independent from France in 1956, but even while polling was still under way the opposition parties made charges of voting irregularities. Page 2.



دردی، مکتوبی

In the Global Spotlight

By Vanya Walker-Leigh

COMMODITIES will be one of the issues included in the proposed United Nations Global Negotiations — assuming that the cautious commitment of the Cancun Summit to reactivate the search for procedures to get them going is followed up.

Solutions to commodity problems are crucial to the development prospects of some 100 non-OPEC developing nations dependent on non-fuel commodity exports, often one or two products, for 70 percent to 100 percent of their export revenues.

But many non-fuel products exported by developing countries are either nonessential tropical foods or materials that can be substituted or replaced by synthetics. Developing nations share of world trade in so-called "strategic" materials (mainly minerals) is only 25 percent. In contrast, poor countries depend on the rich for 79 percent of their imports of ores and metals, and 62 percent of their essential food products. Advanced countries in fact dominate non-fuel commodities trade — Western nations accounting for 68 percent of world trade in these products, Eastern Europe, another 6 percent.

Furthermore, many commodity prices are largely determined by trading on commodity exchanges, while multinational companies play a leading role in production, transport, processing and marketing of numerous primary products, according to recent studies.

Thus a report to the 94th U.S. Congress revealed that five companies handled about 80 percent of world grain trade, and an even higher proportion of U.S. and Canadian grain exports.

Negotiations on commodity issues however take place between governments, both inside councils managing a number of commodity agreements and within the Integrated Program for Commodities launched by the fourth UN Conference on Trade and Development in 1976 in Nairobi.

The IPC covers 18 products of major export interest to non-oil producing developing countries. Its launching was seen as something of a triumph for the Third World, frustrated by the piecemeal, case-by-case approach in a number of organizations, and the refusal of rich nations to contribute to financing of buffer stocks or other price stabilization measures under existing commodity agreements.

But Western agreement to the IPC emerged from Nairobi mainly because 19 OPEC and non-oil developing nations involved in the Paris-based Conference on International Economic Cooperation, discussing energy, trade, finance, aid, food and commodities, threatened their Western co-participants with refusing to return to the talks. The IPC adopted there also called for a conference to discuss and negotiate a common fund to finance buffer stocks and other commodity measures.

However, political commitment to a common fund only emerged at the end of the Paris talks, mid-1977, as one of the concessions made by Western nations in exchange for Third World support for a post-conference mechanism to continue discussions on energy. Divided among itself, the Third World group refused the mechanism, but negotiations on the common fund went ahead and an agreement finally emerged in 1980.

The common fund will only become operational when 90 nations accounting for two-thirds of its \$470-million subscribed capital have signed and ratified the agreement. So far, only 69 nations have signed.



The Ring during a trading period at the London Metal Exchange.

COMMODITIES

Discipline Is Effective Defense Against Risk

By D. Geoffrey Bean

THE NOTION that trading in commodities carries a high risk of having 50 tons of sugar deposited in one's garden may make for heavy bar gossip but should not deter serious investors from investigating commodity and financial futures markets as investment media.

Although such markets are designed to assist trading in real goods over which forward and futures contracts confer rights, the essence of futures trading is that the contract may be closed out prior to the date at which delivery of real goods falls due.

A forward contract, such as forms the basis of trade on the London Metal Exchange (LME), is a contract to buy or sell goods for delivery at a specific forward date known as the "prompt" date. A futures contract extends this concept somewhat and is essentially a forward contract made on standard terms in a market where the majority of such contracts are closed out before delivery by the matching of opposite bought ("long") and sold ("short") contracts with the immediate settlement of cash differences from the prices of the long and short trades.

Futures markets in the United States and in London embrace a wide range of raw materials and latterly "financial investments." Contracts in raw materials cover most nonferrous metals, precious metals, grains, livestock, fiber, commodities such as cotton and wool, cocoa, coffee, rubber, sugar and many more.

Government Debt

Contracts to financial futures, which have originated during the last decade in the United States, exist in government short and long dated debt such as Treasury bills and bonds, mortgage certificates and foreign exchange for the major currencies. Similar markets are planned in London for foreign exchange and

Enrocurrency interest rates. Consequently, the investor has many opportunities in different markets in most of which prices can move quite sharply from time to time.

The notion that all commodity markets are highly risky compared to other financial markets is an exaggeration, however, and a reflection of the need for disciplined money management when using futures rather than a criticism of the markets.

Futures markets function on a "margin" system of trading whereby the holder of a long or short futures contract must put up money in the form of an initial deposit and a variation margin on any adverse price movements calculated from the price at which his contract is opened to the current level of market price for the same contract. Consequently, the investor in futures can have control over a much larger value of goods than his cash investment.

Disciplined management of this exposure to risk lies at the heart of prudent investment in futures markets. The impression that futures markets are more volatile than other financial markets almost certainly arises from the fact that many investors get their fingers badly burned from overtrading in relation to capital actually allocated to financing futures positions.

It is advisable to look at the gross value of commitments in relation to capital (often termed "gearing" or "leverage") and as a general rule rarely to allow this to reach more than about 3 to 1 without taking into account unrealized profits (which have a habit of disappearing suddenly).

When one looks at volatility of stock and commodity markets in gross terms — that is, ignoring the ability to gear up commodity futures positions by the deposit and margin system of trading — the volatility of commodities

(Continued on Page 115)

International Petroleum Exchange Is Filling a Need

By Peter Wildblood

MANY business activities involve risk. Some can be assessed from experience or actuarially as insurance companies do when calculating premiums. Other enterprises cannot do this or there are other factors that make it necessary for them to find different ways of controlling risk.

Those involved with producing, buying, selling or manufacturing from primary commodities are dealing with risk from price changes. The commodity sector, mostly, has developed its own form of risk management in the shape of futures markets, which provide price insurance through hedging.

Although a new medium in the oil trade, futures markets have been used by the commodity trader for a long time — more than 100 years in the case of London — sufficient for their effectiveness to be proved.

Why, then, only recently, was the International Petroleum Exchange established? Until the early '70s the world enjoyed comparative price stability in oil and oil products. However, the breakdown of the traditional structure of the oil trade and political changes saw an end to that. Considerable price uncertainty and volatility ensued, creating the need for a futures market in oil and oil products that London is well placed to fill.

Trading Center

London not only has the expertise, communications and financial structure, but it is close to Rotterdam, the center of the spot market and Europe's biggest oil port. Also, as a trading center, it straddles the world's time trading zones permitting business from Europe and the East in the morning and from North America in the afternoon.

It was not only price insurance that the oil trade needed. The lack of a central marketplace and the existence of only informal methods of gathering information meant that there was no open or reliable indication of prices or price trends. A futures market, where business is conducted publicly by "open outcry" on a market floor, provides price transparency. All bids, offers and completed trades are instantly shown on visual display units on the floor and in members' offices. The same information is available through the various international news media to the public and businesses worldwide.

The IPE commenced trading on April 6, 1981, with a first contract in gas oil (heating oil) of a standard European specification. The contract for 100-metric-ton lots is denominated in U.S. dollars with a minimum fluctuation of 25 cents. Trading takes place over nine consecutive months, starting with the current spot month, and delivery is made against transferable bearer warrants in the Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Antwerp areas.

From the outset, the IPE has been determined to develop a strong trade base to the market. BP, Amoco, Ultramar Golden Eagle, Agip, Mobil and Copechem are some trade

members. Other majors have shown interest and there is active participation from the large network of small distributors of heating oil. It is not only those who can use the market to fix a price forward or hedge their physical commitments. Large consumers of heating oil, whether industrial concerns or government departments and local authorities, and users of gas oil as a feedstock or diesel need to protect themselves against adverse price movements.

Futures Contracts

While hedging (buying price insurance) may be the prime use of the market by many, others use it as a means to accept risk in the expectation of profit (selling price insurance).

This latter speculative element to the market is essential to broaden its base and provide additional liquidity. It also ensures that on one side of the market can dominate to the detriment of the other.

A futures contract is a binding agreement to buy or sell at a specified price and at a definite future date a standard quantity of a commodity of fixed quality and terms of delivery. This standard contract enables all users of the product of trade through the market on a common accepted basis.

Futures transactions differ from physical contracts because they are transferable. As all futures contracts are identical in terms of quality and quantity it is possible to make a

compensating purchase or sale at any time, thereby closing out any liability under the original contract, leaving only the difference in contract price to be settled.

The primary use of the market is for hedging. For example, an oil company anticipates holding a surplus of gas oil in July. During January, the futures price for July is \$310 per metric ton, which the company believes would be a good price to sell its summer surplus. It therefore sells July futures contracts equivalent to its anticipated July surplus. In June it enters the physical market and sells the oil for delivery in July. At the same time it re-enters the futures market and buys future positions in

(Continued on Page 95)

Responsive to Change

By David M. Anderson

A PREDOMINANT feature of the London markets is that they have always been responsive to change, and change there has always been.

The exchanges and the contracts traded on them have been created out of economic necessity by those people whose business it is to make a market and trade in the underlying goods, or to produce and consume them. Thus some contracts have failed to work and ceased trading while others continue to expand in volume and importance.

Similarly, as trading patterns change or industry's requirements change, so new futures contracts for new commodities are examined and from time to time started. In the last three years alone, new contracts have been started in soya meal, nickel, aluminum, potatoes and gas oil. It is expected that a gold futures market will open in the first quarter of 1982 and a financial futures market in the third quarter of 1982. Although the International Petroleum Exchange was only established this year with one commodity, gas oil, being traded, studies are being made to expand it into a full energy market with contracts in other oil and petrochemical products and perhaps even coal.

Financial Instruments

The biggest development worldwide in commodity trading, however, has been in financial instruments, from currency futures to interest rate futures. Although these concepts were initially developed in Chicago the existence of exchange controls and the banking environment precluded their development in London. But that has changed and the banking community, in conjunction with the currency and discount markets are combining to put together the London International Financial Futures Exchange (LIFFE). It is hoped that within a year contracts in currencies, U.K. government gilts and Eurobonds will be trading. This is relevant for the commodities community because currencies and interest rates are interwoven in the fabric of commodity trading.

This will mean that London alone will have an organized exchange for every international commodity (and this now includes currencies and interest rates as commodities). These can be split into fibers, grains, tropical products, nonferrous metals, precious metals, oil, currencies and interest rates.

There are three distinct commodity exchanges in London. The London Metal Exchange (copper, tin, lead, zinc, silver, aluminum and nickel), the Grain & Feed Trade Association (wheat, barley, potatoes) and the London Commodity Exchange (sugar, co-

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Gold Futures Trading Soars in Popularity

By Peter Grange

AN OUTSTANDING feature of the boom in U.S. futures markets in recent years has been the enormous popularity of gold futures. The volume of contracts traded on the New York Commodity Exchange (Comex), the largest of the U.S. markets in gold futures, soared from 394,000 in 1975 to 6.5 million in 1980. An important element in that growth has been the increasing interest shown by the American public.

The success of the futures markets has not gone unnoticed in London. The city's financial and commodity milieu are sensitive to any developments that may reduce the importance of London as a trading center, and two of its august bodies, the London Gold Market and the London Metal Exchange, are joint sponsors of a scheme to open a gold futures market. Most of the details are now finalized but they were not determined without long delays, protracted debate and, on one issue at least, a great deal of controversy.

Much of the U.S. market's popular appeal stems from the attraction of gold itself; that and a general disenchantment with the U.S. investment climate. The high leverage offered by futures markets is undoubtedly a big attraction. For example, the recommended margin deposit in Comex is \$2,500 for a contract of 100 ounces 999.5-fine gold. The recom-

mended margin on Chicago's International Monetary Market (IMM) is even lower: \$1,500 for a "speculator" contract of the same weight and fineness, although a "hedger" has to pay \$2,000 (an acknowledgment that the speculator uses the market to accept risk, hence the inducement, while the hedger uses it to reduce risk).

The remarkable success of the major U.S. gold futures markets — Comex accounts for about 55 percent of the business and IMM for about 35 percent — can also be attributed to the low carrying charges on gold futures and the ease, perhaps beguiling, of trading in them. Gold futures carry a premium equal to or fractionally above rates in the interbank Eurodollar market. Contracts are standardized and, as all but a few are closed out before the delivery date, there are no transport costs, no assay costs, and no need to buy insurance.

Gold Futures Trading

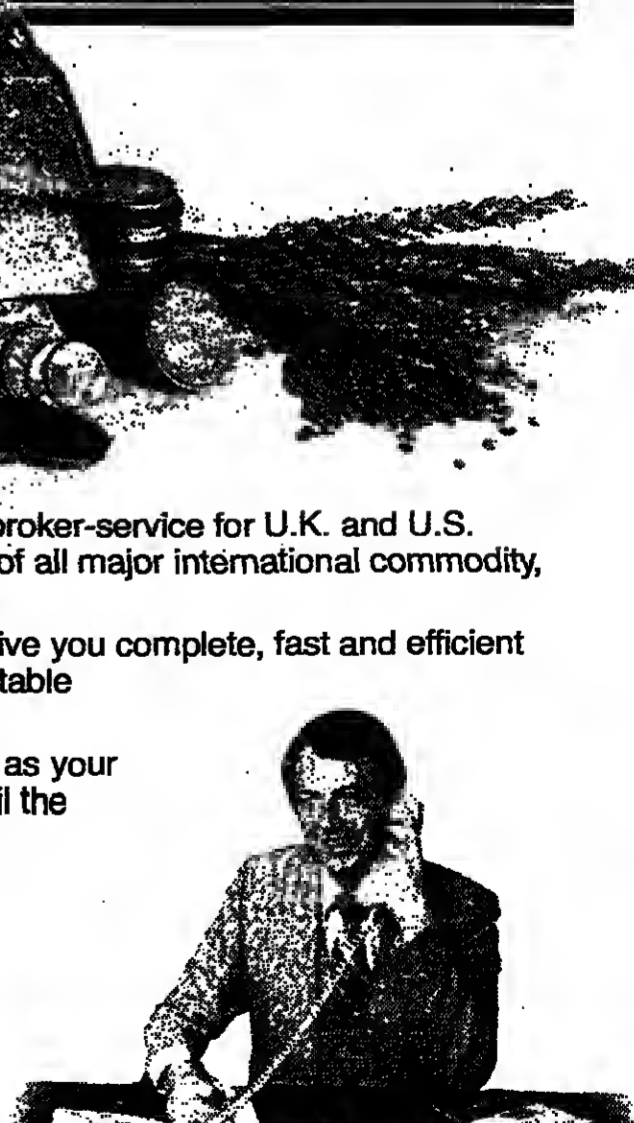
Morover, prices are widely disseminated and liquidity virtually assured by the market's depth. The fact remains that for every gain there is a corresponding loss, and there is no dividend attached to gold futures. Nevertheless, the U.S. formula has led to markets of broad appeal with private investors playing a significant role alongside bullion dealers, producers, foreign exchange dealers, the jewelry trade and industrial consumers.

The same may yet prove to be the case on

(Continued on Page 115)

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Uncertainty Clouding World Grain Markets

By Terence C. Bird

SEVERAL months of bearish statistics have resulted in the world's major grain, oilseed and oilseed products experiencing a steady decline in prices, as reflected by the Chicago Board of Trade futures markets. In Western Europe, however, the appreciation of the dollar against most European currencies (especially the Deutsche mark and the Dutch guilder) has kept price levels of imported dollar commodities relatively steady despite the fall in actual U.S. commodity prices.

On a deflated basis, prices (in dollar terms) are at relatively low levels, yet the fundamentals remain bearish. Recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture released crop production projections for this year, as shown in the table at right.

The significance of this report is the large increases projected for the corn and soybean crops over the September estimates. The market had in general been expecting a slight decline in the soybean production and an increase in that for corn to somewhat more than the 6-billion-bushel level. A virtually unchanged all wheat figure had generally been anticipated.

A comparison of this year's crops to the levels achieved in 1980 can distort the overall picture to some extent because the 1980 crops were damaged by severe drought conditions. This year's production levels, however, are at, or near, records, and the latest report could exert further pressure on Chicago Board of Trade price levels.

Harvesting

It is also significant that the wheat crop is already harvested but at this time the U.S. corn and soybean harvest is moving into full swing and an increase in farmer marketings is likely at least to place a lid on any upward move in prices.

As for corn, a study of the crop years beginning with 1961-1962 shows successive increases from the July to October estimates 35 percent of the time (seven years). Of those years, the average change from the September to October estimates had been an increase of 46

million bushels, with a maximum of 122 million and a minimum of 7 million.

The increase this year has been 141 million (exceeding the previous maximum). It has further been observed that the October estimate was lower six of the seven times than the final number by an average of a significant 259 million bushels, with a maximum of 549 million bushels and a minimum of 10 million. This is mentioned to suggest that, given no unusual harvest difficulties, the possibility of a crop of at least 8.5 billion bushels should not be ruled out.

It should also be kept in mind that frost episodes on Oct. 2 and 3 in parts of southern Minnesota, northern Iowa, western Wisconsin and northern areas of Indiana and Ohio in all probability did minimal damage. The frosts had given a supportive influence ahead of the October crop report, but as damage is generally expected only to result in a slight loss in yield and the use of some corn for silage instead of grain, it would appear to be too optimistic to expect a reduction in the crop production level for corn. Because soybeans grow nearer ground level, it could conceivably be expected that a reduction in the current projection for soybeans will be made.

Negative Conclusion

Because of these factors, one can hardly draw anything but a negative conclusion as to the price outlook for the corn market and, to a lesser extent, the soybean market. The supply side is, however, only a part of the overall situation and a number of other considerations must be taken into account.

The main question in the market now is whether several months of continuous price declines have effectively discounted the bearish fundamentals or whether the market has yet to witness a "falling climax." That the fundamentals are bearish has not gone unrecognized, and the October crop report will dispel any lingering doubts about the adequacy of new crop supplies, erasing a year-old underlying bullish market factor.

One of the major market negatives during the last months has been the high U.S. interest rates and their subsequent supportive

influence on the U.S. dollar. This has resulted in increased carrying costs and continues to put a downward bias on the market, as the high built-in premiums reflected in the deferred contracts erode when those contracts approach expiration.

Declining Rates

The bearish complexion of the fundamentals has caused succeeding contracts to expire at consecutively lower price levels. This is the area that would appear to hold the key to future price movements for the grain and soybean-complex markets.

A declining U.S. interest rate and subsequent decline in the value of the dollar could lead to an

explosive return from the demand side. The U.S. prime rate has fallen recently from its high of 21.5 percent.

U.S. money supply growth is within its targeted range and interest rates do appear set to move lower. Further declines in rates would be expected to take a somewhat slow process due to large Treasury borrowing requirements during the fourth quarter together with an upturn in seasonal loan demand from the corporate sector. A deteriorating balance of payments for the United States because of the high level of the dollar will probably also lead to a further weakening of the dollar against major international currencies toward the end of 1981 and in 1982.

High interest rates have had a

devastating effect on the Chicago Board of Trade markets, in that high carrying costs have discouraged inventory holding. The appreciation in the dollar has discouraged exports. Consumption of "invisible" stocks and pipeline supplies has made reported usage figures appear even lower than actual levels probably were. In view of this, it can reasonably be assumed that inventories are at a very low level. The seasonal tendency is for demand to increase in the autumn, especially for animal feedstuffs for the winter months. A further seasonal tendency is for lows to be established at harvest time, which encourages commercial users to take coverage.

It would therefore appear pro-

consecutive crop failure due to drought stress, and its imports will continue at a very high level through 1982. Actual Soviet import capacity remains questionable, but it would appear conceivable that the nation is in a position to import at a very high level, especially from the United States.

China has indicated that it will continue to purchase "if the price is right." European demand could experience a sizable recovery if the exchange rates move in the right direction. The Indian peanut crop is expected to show a decline against last year (India is an edible-oil-deficit country, and its peanut crop is the fourth largest oilseed crop in the world). Soviet vegetable oil production has fallen steadily during the last several years and both of these countries are expected to continue importing at high levels.

These are just a few examples on the demand side, and memories from the past decade indicate how quickly a surplus stocks situation can turn into a deficit and how dependent world supplies are on the vagaries of weather.

After painting an initially bearish picture on the price outlook for the major grains and oilseed complex, one must insert a note of caution as to the possible downside potential for the Chicago futures market.

After the October crop report and the harvest pressure up to at least late October, timing would appear right for final sell-off in the current bear market.

However, the anticipatory nature of the futures markets suggests that the time would be better used to start the scale-down buying back of speculative short positions. For commercial users, a scale-down program of inventory accumulation would also appear to be attractive on any further weakness in Board of Trade prices. Great attention should also continue to be paid to movements in U.S. currency and interest rates.

Terence C. Bird is a grain specialist at E.F. Hutton & Co., Ltd.

USDA Crop Production Projections

(Figures in thousands of bushels)

	Conditions as of Oct. 1, 1981	Conditions as of Sept. 1, 1981	Final 1980 Crop
Soybeans	2,106,568	2,089,418	1,792,062
All Wheat	2,749,785	2,750,115	2,369,666
Corn	8,081,441	7,940,421	6,647,534

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High interest rates have had a devastating effect on the Chicago Board of Trade markets, in that high carrying costs have discouraged inventory holding. The appreciation in the dollar has discouraged exports. Consumption of "invisible" stocks and pipeline supplies has made reported usage figures appear even lower than actual levels probably were. In view of this, it can reasonably be assumed that inventories are at a very low level. The seasonal tendency is for demand to increase in the autumn, especially for animal feedstuffs for the winter months. A further seasonal tendency is for lows to be established at harvest time, which encourages commercial users to take coverage.

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Coffee Outlook Seen as Bullish After International Pact

By J.A. Patterson

AFTER extended negotiations, the delegates to the International Coffee Organization meeting in London arrived at a compromise agreement on Sept. 25 for the October, 1981-September, 1982 coffee year — "compromise" because it is impossible to make everyone happy about the overall quota, individual quotas or the price brackets around which in-

creases and cuts in quotas are implemented.

Since the disastrous frost in Brazil on July 20, which wiped out about 14 million bags from a total world exportable production of 73 million bags, it has been almost a unanimous opinion in the trade that the ICO would continue, at least for another year. This view was justified by the amount of good will evident among official coffee delegations during the recent talks.

The problems involved were highlighted, however, when it took nearly a week longer than the scheduled two weeks to reach agreement.

The bones of the agreement are for a basic global quota to member consumers of 56 million bags, depending on price. It was agreed that only 13 million bags would be sold in the first quarter unless prices reached 115 cents a pound, at which level an additional 1 million bags would be brought forward from the balance of the annual allocation. It was further agreed that from Dec. 1, unless prices rise to 120 cents a pound, there should be two 1-million-bag cuts, followed by two 1-million-bag cuts at 115

cents a pound, with similar increases in quota if prices reached the 140- and 145-cent levels. By this method, the ICO hopes to keep the supply side of the market on a tight rein to ensure the best capital returns for producer members.

There are a number of futures markets throughout the world dealing in coffee, but the two principal ones are in London and New York. Both these markets are in ICO member countries and deal only in ICO quota coffee.

The London and New York markets are somewhat different animals and, although the general trend in prices is reflected on both markets, there is much room for individual movement, mainly due to two factors: currency, with London quoting in sterling per metric ton and the United States in U.S. cents per pound; and quality basis, which in London is Robusta coffee of mainly African and Indonesian origin, while in New York it is a washed Arabica contract covering mainly Central American mild coffee.

These differences, of course, give rise to opportunities for arbitrage between the two markets.

But this can be a costly exercise, as can be seen from the present differential of nearly 40 cents per pound against the historic 10 to 20 cents per pound.

On the supply side, there would appear to be sufficient coffee in the world to meet ICO importing member demand for the coming year at least, with worldwide exportable production in 1981-1982 at about 73 million bags and demand at about 62 million bags.

Deficit Forecast

For 1982-1983, one can expect a small deficit, with the ever-present possibility of another Brazilian frost in 1982, which makes life particularly arduous for the poor "coffee man" who has to live through three to four months a year during which an hour of low temperatures in Brazil can wipe out up to 25 percent of total world production and put the market into turmoil.

Such disasters apart, the ICO quota in 1981-1982 of 56 million bags would, on the face of it, seem to be sufficient, especially with the provisions to reduce or increase quotas by up to 4 million bags, depending on market conditions.

(Within two or three days of the date of the ICO agreement, prices moved up from about 105 cents to 115 cents a pound, which should allow the release of a further 1 million bags from the 1981 inventory location, ensuring an adequate supply for the October-December, 1981, quarter.)

In the medium term, however, price levels could gradually work higher, reaching a peak during June-July, 1982. There are several reasons for predicting this:

• Prices are at the lower end of the ICO price brackets.

• The damage caused by the Brazilian frost will only affect the 1982 crop — the present crop had been harvested by July, 1981. Historically, after a disastrous frost, the market immediately shoots up, followed by an almost equally rapid downward reaction, then prices gradually move up as the tightening supply position becomes more evident.

• The 1980-1981 coffee year was started with large quantities of unsold stocks available in consuming countries, a legacy of the Pacific debacle. Both futures markets had contango configurations (discounts in the near positions), which enabled the trade to carry the stocks at little or no cost and, in turn, allowed roasters to reduce inventories to an absolute minimum, very welcome in a time of high interest rates. When the roaster ran short of coffee, something was always available from the spot stocks. The present situation is very different, with much less coffee available in consuming countries. It is therefore probable that roasters will have to increase inventories by up to two weeks, which would equate to an increased demand of 2 million bags.

• Fears of a Brazilian frost during June-August, 1982.

Against this general bullish sentiment, there is always a case for caution, with the main worry being consumption, especially in Europe, which could experience an increase in retail prices due to the weakness of European currencies against the dollar. The ICO base level of 120 cents a pound was fine a year ago, but today it is a very different picture when converted to Deutsche marks, francs and sterling.

J.A. Patterson is chairman of Woodhouse Drake and Carey, Ltd.

What do these two top performing commodity funds have in common?

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SECTOR LEADERS: 1ST YEAR COMMODITIES
1. Normandy Metal Trust
 2. Old Court Commodity
 3. Commodity Futures Fund
 4. Suninvest Copper
 5. Camho
- Source: Money Management Magazine, Feb 1981

The table above shows the Funds appearing at the top of the September 1981 issue of Money Management magazine's Offshore Fund one-year performance league.

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ContiCommodity

Recent Accord, Price Decline Trouble Rubber Market

By Peter Grange

INTERNATIONAL commodity agreements are rarely free from political contention. The recently activated International Rubber Agreement is no exception. The underlying prices in the agreed range to be supported are too low, the producing countries insist. But, much worse, the steep fall in natural rubber prices since the beginning of 1981 has revived fears of racial turmoil in Malaysia, the major producer.

Last January, the price of top-grade rubber, RSS1, stood at 302 cents a kilogram. By June it was down to 265 cents. Official statements in Malaysia were not muted but so far they have been more notable for their acerbity than their effect. The price in recent weeks has stayed in the range of 220 to 230 cents a kilogram.

The Malaysian primary industries minister, Paul Leong, while allowing that economic conditions in the Western economies were largely responsible for the decline in prices, accused "certain excessive, speculative elements" of further depressing prices to artificially low levels.

"Within limits," the minister was quoted as saying, "we accept the fact that there is a role for speculation as much as there is a need to foster hedging and an active rubber market. But when speculation becomes excessive and rears its ugly head to threaten and undermine the viability of continuing rubber production, then there is a need to counteract such unhealthy forces."

Consternation

His statements caused some consternation among international rubber traders, particularly those in the London futures market. True, at the time no one was entirely sure where Mr. Leong's finger was pointing. But neither was it entirely clear who had ducked. London traders sought a clarification from Mr. Leong when he passed through London in September. "His charges were aimed at traders in the Far East," a source in London said, with no audible sigh of relief.

It appears that, when Malaysia restructured export duties on rubber, Malaysian Chinese traders — who control about 90 percent of the Malaysian trade — quickly spotted a loophole in the quality related scheme. "They were marking RSS1 as RSS3, a lower grade incurring less duty, and shipping it across the causeway to Singapore where it was re-marked as RSS1 and re-exported," the London source said. The fact that manipulation of grades was widespread is supported by Malaysian statistics showing that exports of RSS1, as a proportion of total rubber exports from Malaysia, is noticeably smaller this year than in 1980.

The unilateral action taken by the Malaysian government to correct what it perceived as artificially low prices confused the market still further. Following strong government warnings to Indonesia and Thailand about the consequences of not supporting the rubber price — interpreted by international traders as a reference to an Indonesian propensity for selling under the umbrella of Malaysian price support — Malaysian state-owned agencies increased purchases in an effort to maintain prices at 250 cents a kilogram. The measure had limited success: While the price in Kuala Lumpur was steady, at least for a while, at 250 cents, the best obtainable price on New York was 220 cents.

The price anomaly prompted another delicate question from the international trade to Mr. Leong, but no finger was pointed this time, nor any explanation given. In ambivalent market conditions, sellers were few. Traders took the view that the Malaysian government's actions lacked direction and that it could revise its support price upward at any moment. The matter hunched down with a few buyers, mostly quasi-governmental organizations, ruling the roost. And frustration mounted in Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia's stance on rubber prices is largely explained in terms of the country's domestic politics and the unequal distribution of wealth among its 14 million people. Despite a program of "Malay-

Upper indicative price:	270 cents a kilo	
Upper trigger price:	252 cents a kilo	+20%
Upper intervention price:	241 1/2 cents a kilo	+15%
REFERENCE PRICE	210 cents a kilo	
Lower intervention price:	178 1/2 cents a kilo	-15%
Lower trigger price:	168 cents a kilo	-20%
Lower indicative price:	150 cents	

Bumiputras. The political situation is further complicated by fears that any failure to meet the burgeoning aspirations of the Moslem Bumiputras may leave them susceptible to the remedies of Islamic fundamentalists.

Malaysia's fourth five-year development plan launched earlier this year is largely designed to satisfy the Bumiputras. The principal aim is a dramatic increase in the rate of Malayization of foreign-owned companies so that by 1990 the Bumiputras will own 30 percent of the corporate sector. The government has certainly not lacked direction in pursuing it: Three British-owned estates have been taken over — Dunlop, Barlows and Guthries — while the Malaysian interests of two other companies, British-owned Harrison and Crossfield and the French-Belgian Soffin group, are the subject of negotiations.

The Buffer Stock

THE INTERNATIONAL Rubber Agreement calls for the creation of a buffer stock of 550,000 metric tons: 440,000 tons in the "normal" buffer stock, 150,000 in the "contingency" stock. The agreed reference price is expressed in Malaysian/Singapore cents — an average of the Malaysian sen and the Singapore cent at the prevailing rate of exchange.

The daily market indicator price is a composite weighted average of daily current month prices on the Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, London and New York markets. It is obtained by averaging the prices commanded on the four markets by three grades of rubber: RSS1, the top-grade specified as the "contract" on the London futures market, and two factory grades, RSS3 and TSR20. The daily indicator is the trigger for intervention and is also expressed in Malaysian/Singapore cents.

If the daily indicator moves into the price bands fixed at plus or minus 15-20 percent of the reference price, the buffer stock manager may buy or sell from the "normal" buffer stock. He must buy or sell when the indicator price breaches the plus or minus 20 percent levels.

Should sales or purchases for the "normal" buffer stock reach the 400,000-ton level, the "contingency" buffer stock is brought into operation.

ization" begun in 1970, 45 percent of the nation's corporate wealth is still controlled by foreign companies. Of the remaining 55 percent, indigenous Malays, known as Bumiputras, own one-quarter while the country's 4.8 million Chinese own almost three-quarters. The imbalance carries a serious risk of racial conflict between the Bumiputras (or "sons of the soil") and the Chinese minority. Memories of the bitter racial violence in 1969 are deeply engrained in the political consciousness.

There is at least one movement intent on fostering Bumiputra-Chinese cooperation, but it can be of no comfort to the authorities. The Communist Party, traditionally the home of disaffected Chinese, is showing renewed energy in its efforts to penetrate labor organizations and is changing its profile by recruiting from the ranks of the

COMMODITIES

Nickel Dealings in London Fail to Meet Expectations

By J.H. Ebertson

DEALINGS in nickel on the London Metal Exchange began only in April, 1979. It is therefore still a newcomer with little experience, considering that the LME was founded in 1878.

As with the other newcomer, aluminum, time and experience are needed to induce the trade — producers, consumers and merchants — to take advantage of the opportunities for hedging.

So far consumers and producers have made rather disappointing use of the exchange for nickel. This goes some way to explaining the very substantial differences between the LME and producer prices. Currently the LME prompt delivery price is about £2,730 per ton (\$2,253 per pound) ex-LME warehouse, whereas the nominal "inco" price for melting nickel for the month of October (in Britain only) is £4,219.6 per ton (\$3,454 per pound), delivered to the customer.

Discounting Seen

Although the posted price of the main producers is published at \$3.45 per pound, they are trying to sell at \$3.243, their pre-July price, but discounting on this price is believed to be occurring.

When comparing LME prices with the prices at which the various producers sell their metal, it is essential to remember that nickel has traditionally been priced in U.S. dollars per pound, and the substantial vagaries of the dollar-sterling exchange need to be taken into account.

Moreover, producers nowadays quote their price "delivered consumers' works in Europe and North America." Their prices usually include an element of credit, usually not less than 30 days and currently about 45-60 days.

The LME is for prompt cash. A broad rule when comparing prices is to add 10-12 cents per pound for handling, insurance, and freight as well as credit expenses in Europe and about 25 cents per pound for delivery in North America.

The recent U.S. mint tender was awarded to a U.S. metal merchant dealer for about 1,600 tons of briquettes originating from Amax's Port Nickel refinery in Louisiana. Amax Nickel, in its own name, quoted the going producer price \$3.24 per pound.

Price-Cutting?

At the time, the winning tender at \$2.7189 per pound was not far removed from the LME equivalent. Are we seeing symptoms of a costly price-cutting war? Certainly the current cost of financing LME and merchant stocks, besides the consumer working inventories, is producing a very strong urge to keep such inventories to a minimum and to sell at the going rate, if not occasionally at a loss.

Let us look in general terms at the basic supply/demand and inventory situation. According to Louis Denaro, formerly of Inco and now an independent nickel consultant, demand this year will only be about 1.125 billion pounds, compared with the peak of 1.350 billion in 1979. Production of finished nickel will be about 1.1 billion pounds, to which must be added about 90 million pounds of net imports from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

rubber production can be expanded by increased tapping — but only up to a point. A newly planted rubber tree requires about six years to be productive, and a further four or five years before it is fully mature. So while small increases in demand can be quickly accommodated, large increases cannot.

In times of low demand and falling prices, there is still less room for maneuver as the economic structure of rubber production inhibits any corresponding decrease in output. Two-thirds of the commodity is produced by small holders. For example, in Malaysia, the richest of the major producers, about 426,000 households depend on small holder cultivation for a living. Any reduction in output is difficult, if not impossible, to achieve. Indeed, the opposite is more likely as the easiest way for the small holder to maintain his income when prices fall is by producing more.

The second influence on natural rubber prices is competition from synthetics. During the last decade, synthetic rubber has accounted for two-thirds of annual rubber consumption. But the properties of natural rubber — high elasticity, resilience and low heat buildup — argue against any wholesale replacement of the natural product.

Given the dominance of the three major producers of natural rubber and the commodity's continuing importance to the automobile industry, the formation of a cartel would not, on the face of it, present too many difficulties. But this ignores Malaysian-Indonesian animosity, not always latent, and the obvious inducement to the importing countries to step up investment in their synthetic rubber industries. When the International Natural Rubber Organization meets in Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 16, it is expected to agree to a modest increase in the underlying price range agreed to more than two years ago in Geneva.

Consumers will doubtless keep their working stocks low, pending revival of the economy. There is thus likely to be an increase in consumer inventories of about 65 million pounds, so that they may reach 360 million by year's end. This is still well below the disastrous level accumulated at the end of 1977. Substantial as this may well be, it is still tolerable in the light of the recent sharp swings in consumption, especially bearing in mind the slow and costly process of reactivating standby mining and smelting capacity.

Modest Role

By contrast with the overall Western world nickel situation, the role of the LME contract is admittedly a modest one. Only 13 million pounds of cathodes and briquettes have been withdrawn for consumption from LME warehouses during the first nine months of the year (1.5 percent of total). Stocks in all the LME warehouses currently amount to 7 million pounds (or barely 7 percent of those held by producers).

During the course of 1981 the LME spot price slowly but steadily descended from the sterling equivalent of \$2.96 down to \$2.50 per pound. The exception was the sudden drop to the equivalent of \$2.17, recovering quickly to \$2.21 on Sept. 28, when metal prices got caught up in the slump on stock market prices.

What policy will the producers pursue? Will they cut production still further, below the current 73.5-percent of capacity? Will one of them liquidate its stocks at whatever the cost, thus generating a new price war? Above all, when and how will the West recover from the current depression and costly high interest rates? It is difficult to predict.

Postwar growth in nickel consumption has averaged 5.5 percent annually. But this slowed down during the late '70s. It is now thought that growth in future years is likely to be on the order of 4 percent a year, compounded. The pattern of consumption has also changed. Mr. Denaro points out that as much as 62 percent of all metal required is nowadays in the form of "charge" nickel for stainless steel, alloy steels and cast irons, rather than in the refined form covered by the LME contract.

Existing capacity is thought to be sufficient to cope with such increases up to the mid-1980s, but Mr. Denaro fears that it may not necessarily be sufficient to cope with the concatenation of over-purchasing, stock rebuilding by consumers, re-filling their pipelines and the currently depleted warehouse stocks of nickel containing semi-manufactures. Mid-1982 is also the period when the labor contracts at Inco, Falconbridge and Amax are due to be renegotiated.

Notwithstanding the current substantial producer stocks, temporary shortages may thus occur in the not-so-distant future. It is during such periods that the LME contract is likely to prove its worth in attenuating the price upsurges of the free nickel market.

J.H. Ebertson is chairman of MacLaine Watson, Ltd.

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International Bond Prices - Week of Oct. 29

Provided by White Weld Securities, London; a Division of Financiere Credit Suisse - First Boston

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns: Amt, Security, % Mat, Middle Price, Yield, and other financial metrics for recent bond issues.

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Table with columns: Amt, Security, % Mat, Middle Price, Yield, and other financial metrics for recent bond issues.

STRAIGHT BONDS

All Currencies Except DM

Large table listing straight bond prices for various currencies and securities, including Australia, Canada, and various international banks.

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HIGHEST YIELDS

to Average Life Below 5 Years

Table showing highest yields for average life below 5 years across various securities.

HIGHEST YIELDS

to Average Life Above 5 Years

Table showing highest yields for average life above 5 years across various securities.

HIGHEST CURRENT YIELDS

Table showing highest current yields across various securities.

DM STRAIGHT BONDS

Table listing DM straight bond prices for various securities and currencies.

(Continued on Page 16)

WestLB advertisement for Eurobonds, DM Bonds, and Schuldscheine, including contact information for Dusseldorf, London, and Luxembourg.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'U.S.' and 'Deutsche'.

International Bond Prices - Week of Oct. 29

Provided by White Weld Securities, London; a Division of Financiere Credit Suisse - First Boston

Table of International Bond Prices. Columns include Amst Security, Yield, Price, and various bond identifiers.

Convertible Bonds

Table of Convertible Bonds. Columns include Amst Security, Price, Yield, and various convertible bond identifiers.

NEW YORK (AP) - Heavy over-the-counter stocks drove the high, low, and last bid prices for the week with the net change from the previous week's last bid prices. All quotations supplied by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. are net transactions but are not necessarily representative of the market as a whole. Prices do not include retail margins, mark-down or commissions. Sales settled by NASD.

Over-the-Counter

Large table of Over-the-Counter stock prices. Columns include Amst Security, High, Low, Last, and various stock identifiers.

American Exchange Options

Table of American Exchange Options. Columns include Option & price, Colls, Puts, and various option identifiers.

HIGHEST CURRENT YIELDS

Table of Highest Current Yields. Columns include Bond identifier, Yield, and other financial data.

- Explanation of Symbols -

Table explaining symbols used in the bond listings, such as CMA, ECU, and others.

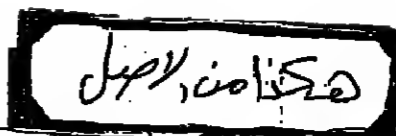
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Table of Mutual Funds. Columns include Fund Name, Assets, and other fund-related information.

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Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.



Over-the-Counter

Stocks in 100s High Low Last Chg

(Continued from Page 16)

Table of stock prices for various companies including IBM, GE, and others.

Table of stock prices for various companies including AT&T, Ford, and others.

Table of stock prices for various companies including Amgen, Amstar, and others.

Selected U.S. College Football Scores

Table of college football scores from various universities across the country.

Reutemann Quitting Grand Prix Circuit

Formula 1 driver Carlos Reutemann, who missed winning the 1981 world championship by a point, has retired from auto racing.

Rogers Shoots Final 76 But Wins in Australia

Sydney - American Bill Rogers survived a 3-ovcr par 76 in Sunday's final round to win the New South Wales Open golf tournament.

Chicago Exchange Options

Table of Chicago Exchange Options for the week ending Oct 30, 1981.

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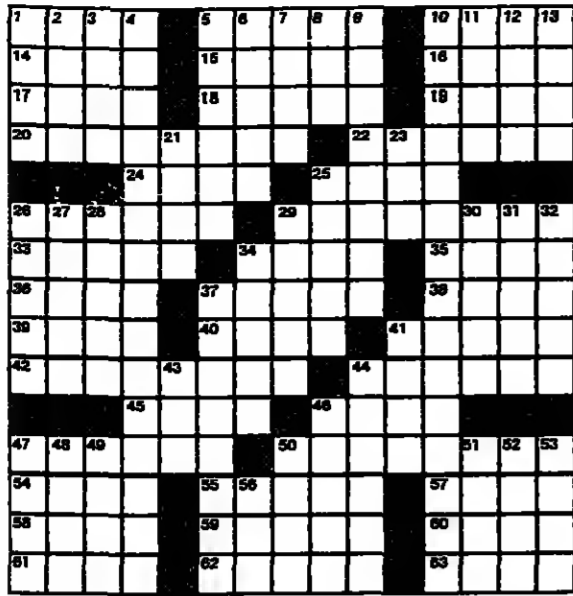
Advertisement for Consolidated Trading, listing NYSE and OTC securities.

Advertisement for ESCORTS & GUIDES, listing services in various cities like London and Paris.

Advertisement for CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, listing various services and contact information.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene T. Maleska



ACROSS

- 1 Cutting remark
2 Liqueur
5 Milwaukee product
14 Addict
15 John Wayne type
16 Metalliferous deposit
17 Queen who fell in love with Amnon
18 Certain news items
19 Helper
20 What loud noises do to all other sounds
22 Bare
24 Aerie or nidus
25 Migration
26 Meadowlike
29 Parachute jump
33 Oodles
34 Health
35 Dinner item
36 Peculiar: Comb. form
37 Ringlets
38 Scottish
39 Seaside resort
39 Homophone for a sea eagle
40 Soviet sea
41 Martin or Canyon
42 Home of the Packers

DOWN

- 1 Melville hero
2 Saudi Arabian province
3 Fix up
4 House that was a mark of wealth in the 19th century
5 Fastidious
6 Contradict
7 Send forth
8 Floor covering
9 Those who are baronets
10 An
11 Algonquian
12 Icelandic literature
13 Poison ivy
21 Loch
23 Jane Rochester
24 Eyre
25 Fish on the move
26 "Peer Gym" composer
27 Electronic signal
28 Blazing
29 Raid
30 First name of the United States
31 Bequeath
32 Anchorite
34 Michelangelo's "Last Judgment" is one
37 San Francisco attraction
41 Treat like an unapproachable
43 Birthplace of the Great
44 Plastered
45 Fastidious
46 The Veep
47 Exhibit
48 Trim
49 Author Paton
50 Stain
51 "... each life"
52 Macbeth or Macduff
53 Harms part
54 "Day," 1965 song

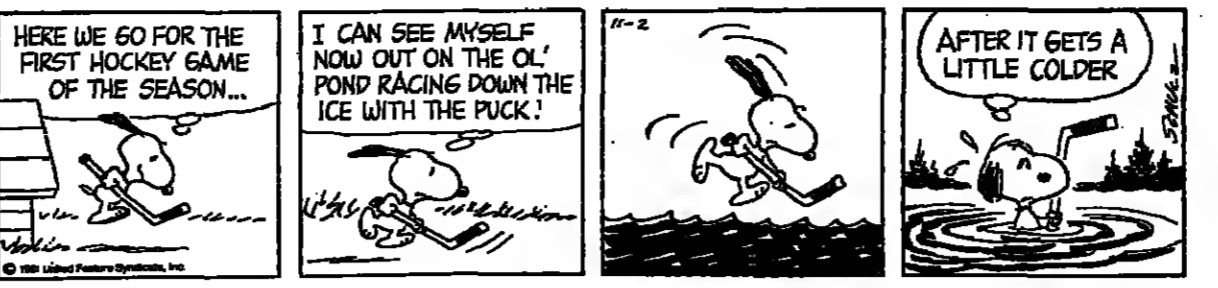
WEATHER

Table with columns for High/Low and Fair/Cloudy/Foggy/Overcast/Rain/Snow. Locations include ALGARVE, ALGERIES, AMSTERDAM, ANKARA, ATHENS, AUCKLAND, BANGKOK, BIRMINGHAM, BOSTON, BRUSSELS, BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, BUENOS AIRES, CAIRO, CASABLANCA, CHICAGO, COVINGHAM, COSTA DEL SOL, DAMASCUS, DUBLIN, EDINBURGH, FLORENCE, FRANKFURT, GENEVA, HONG KONG, HOUSTON, ISTANBUL, JERUSALEM, LAS PALMAS, LIMA, LISBON, LONDON, LOS ANGELES.



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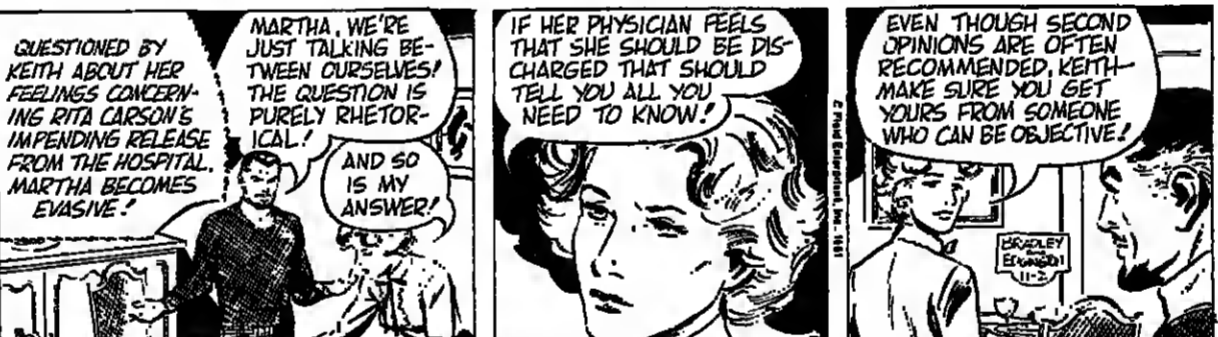
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R.E.X. M.O.R.G.A.N.



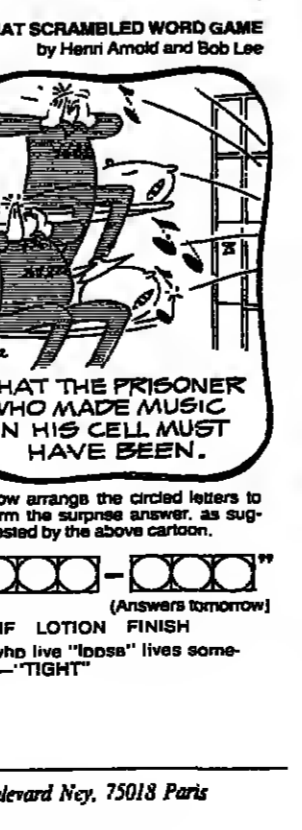
D.O.N.E.S.B.U.R.Y.



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. RICLY, GNUST, BOEDUL, SPYGOL.

DENNIS THE MENACE



BOOKS

MX Prescription for Disaster By Herbert Scoville Jr., 218 pp. \$6.95, paperback. M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, Mass. 02142. Reviewed by Jack Burby

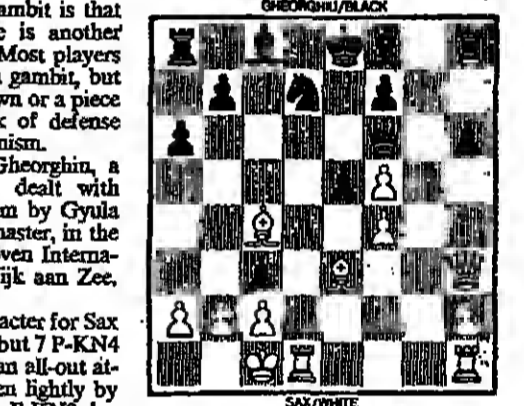
HERBERT SCOVILLE may not lead the United States out of the woods of the MX missile debate, but he certainly leads a reader through those woods better than anyone else in print. How is it possible that the United States and the Soviet Union — after three terrifying decades of scrambling to reduce the danger of nuclear war — wind up one small step from increasing the danger? Scoville explains. Is there a way out? He thinks so. The answers are presented in a crisp, surgically passionate, always scary but oddly hopeful 218 pages (plus a glossary of such crucial phrases as "countersite capability") of superbly simple writing on one of the world's most complex subjects. Scoville advocates arms control, but he has not written any hand-wringing appeal to throw down the guns. His message is that the United States may or may not need one more generation of bigger, more powerful nuclear missiles but that it does need the MX buried where the Pentagon wants to put it. Deployed that way, he says, the MX is fatally flawed on the only point that argues for a new weapons system of any kind: It would not survive a first strike by Soviet intercontinental warheads. Worse, Scoville says, the MX system the Pentagon wants could, itself, wipe out the land-based nuclear arsenal in Russian silos; for that reason, MX might make the Soviets more rather than less, likely to launch a first strike — in panic over an outbreak of fighting in Europe or a phony blip on a radar screen. What makes "Prescription for Disaster" a treasure is that Scoville writes not for other nuclear experts — as do most other books on the subject — but for those of us whose grasp of global nuclear strategy extends barely beyond knowing how to lace up Army boots. Scoville starts at Alamogordo and traces the steps and sidesteps that carried the superpowers more or less safely into the 1980s, each following what passes for logic in the nuclear age. World is Relatively Safe The logic is as follows: The world is relatively safe as long as neither side believes it could launch any of its missiles — in panic over an outbreak of fighting in Europe or a phony blip on a radar screen. The certainty of punishment keeps fingers away from triggers and as many as 150 million people alive at each end of the nuclear arc. The logic is breaking down. With every improvement, the superpowers have moved closer, sometimes by accident, to an array of weapons that could destroy the other's power to retaliate. In theory, that would be the case sometime in the 1980s, when the Soviets could destroy all U.S. Minuteman missiles in their silos with multiple warheads. The MX missile is the Pentagon's answer to that Soviet edge. Scoville thinks the way out is small submarines, cruising close to U.S. shores, carrying either new MX missiles or missiles already aboard the growing fleet of U.S. missile-launching submarines. Obviously, nuclear strategy is more complicated than that and Scoville uses every last one of the 218 pages to make it seem simple. The timing of publication could not be better. You can make your own decision by reading this important book. Jack Burby wrote this review for The Los Angeles Times, where he is an editorial writer.

Solution to Friday's Puzzle

Grid solution for Friday's puzzle with words like TASKS, OARS, BOOIE, CANEPP, EGIS, URAL, CANVAS, ACH, FOWL, TRANSIT, GUFF, TIT, KNOX, PULANE, GEAR, AEGOP, ASSORT, BOOWHITE, TEAL, REPER, EARN, GALOPATE, ELANET, ALLE, WEGED, TEEMER, TAUT, SPA, EPOS, METTIER, SLAY, WILDTURK, KITE, EVIL, CAELA, TIBIS, AIDE, EISSEN.

CHESS

THE trouble with a gambit is that one man's sacrifice is another man's gain of material. Most players may be intimidated by a gambit, but some are glad to go a pawn or a piece ahead and face the task of defense with a mood of cool optimism. That is how Florin Gheorghiu, a Rumanian grandmaster, dealt with the gambit thrown at him by Gyula Sax, a Hungarian grandmaster, in the first round of the Hogevon International Tournament in Wijk aan Zee, the Netherlands. It would not be in character for Sax to play the tame 7 P-K2, but 7 P-KN4 is really committing to an all-out attack. It must not be taken lightly by 7... P-K4?; 8 N-B5, P-KN3 (to back off by 10 P-N7, P-B5; 11 B-Q2, N-Q2 would be to lose the foremost KB2 for nothing), P-Q4 (retreat with 10... N-N1 grants White powerful attacking chances, for example by 11 N-Q5, N-Q2; 12 Q-B3, N-K2; 13 B-N6; QxR; 14 NxR; N-N1; 15 P-B6, N-B3; 16 Q-Q3, N-Q2; 17 B-B4, N-Q5; 18 BxPch, Q-Q1; 19 Q-Q3; 11 Q-B3, P-Q5; 12 Q-Q4, P-K4; 13 P-N3, B-Q4, threatening 15 BxPch, is perhaps impossible, for Black to meet. Therefore, Gheorghiu followed a plan developed by Lev Polugayevsky, 7... P-R3; 8 Q-B3, QN-Q2; 9 Q-R3, P-K4; 10 N-B5, P-KN3, with the point that 11 N-N3 (11 NxP, BxN; 12 BxP, N-B4; 13 Q-R4, BxP leaves White in an uncomfortable pin), N-N3; 12 P-B3, P-KR4 forces White into a difficult defense of his kingside. Sax reinstated the gambit idea with 11 P-N5, P-N1; 12 PxBP, but under less favorable conditions since the black QN was already mobilized. Thus, Gheorghiu could afford to play 12... P-Q4; 13 Q-Q4, P-Q5; 14 P-N1, P-N1 because after 15 B-Q4, the threat of 16 BxPch was killed by 15... Qx2. Sax tried to take advantage of the black king position by advancing with 16 P-B4 to open central lines, but Gheorghiu efficiently furthered his lagging development by 16... N-



Position after 16 P-B4. B4; 17 KR-K1, BxP; 18 Q-N2, B-K5; 19 Q-N3, N-K3 which led to a hopelessly blocked king file after 20 P-Q2, Q-N2. While the outlook for Sax's attack was dismal, he should still not have reduced material by 21 BxN!; PxFc; 22 KxP, PxB. After 23 Q-B4, R-B1, he longer needing any special defensive measures, Gheorghiu had already begun to counterattack. Having used up his time in the attempt to penetrate the impervious Black position, Sax erred with 24 R-Q2? This permitted 24... B-N5, when 24... R-N1, Q-B4 would either force the exchange of queens or a devastating gain of material. His overstepping of the time limit at the 25th move was a merciful end to his struggles. SICILIAN DEFENSE White: 1 P-K4, P-Q3, 13 Q-Q4, 14 P-N3, 15 P-B6, 16 Q-Q3, 17 B-B4, 18 BxPch, 19 Q-Q3, 20 P-N3, 21 BxN, 22 P-B3, 23 P-KR4, 24 R-Q2, 25 P-N5, 26 P-N1, 27 PxBP. Black: 1 P-K4, 2 P-Q3, 3 P-Q4, 4 N-B5, 5 P-KN3, 6 P-K4, 7 P-KN4, 8 Q-B3, 9 Q-R3, 10 N-B5, 11 P-N3, 12 PxBP, 13 Q-Q4, 14 P-N3, 15 P-B6, 16 Q-Q3, 17 B-B4, 18 BxPch, 19 Q-Q3, 20 P-N3, 21 BxN, 22 P-B3, 23 P-KR4, 24 R-Q2, 25 P-N5, 26 P-N1, 27 PxBP.

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Language

The Great Out There

By William Safire

NEW YORK — In Vienna, Alan Levy has been clipping out of the International Herald Tribune the common denominator in "out there."

In one story about show business, Lila Wisdom, godmother of actress Brooke Shields, is quoted as warning: "Everybody has the million-dollar deal. There are a lot of phony ones out there."

On the business page, Edward Telling, chairman of Sears, Roebuck, observes: "We can't forget those 40 million accounts out there..."

On the cows pages, Arlene Weidner, an organizer of the Save Our Shrine Committee in Chicago, commented on the charges aimed at Cardinal John Cody: "There are 2 1/2 million Catholics out there who must feel awfully bad..."

Noting these usages, Levy observes: "When my family and I moved to Europe 14 years ago, we thought we went Over There. Now I keep reading about somewhere called Out There. Since we're planning a return visit to the States next summer, I'd like to book a Super-Apex ticket to this newest in-place, but we can't find it on the map."

I, too, have been tracking printed references to this much-mentioned place. Out There is the insider's derogation of the vast wasteland outside. It is not so much a place as a collection of unsophisticated people — the amorphous audience, the mob upon which the opinion makers like to say they "impact."

The predecessor phrase was the "Great Unwashed," said to have originated with Edmund Burke; in this sense, it faintly connotes an adjective was first recorded in the United States in 1844: "The larger element of ignorance and unwashed humanity, including our foreign-born population, gave victory to Mr. Polk."

For a time in the early 1970s, "the Silent Majority" was the operative phrase, spoken less in derogation than in defiance, but that phrase had ancient roots in a description of all the people who had ever died. It was quickly re-

placed with "Middle America," a neutral-connotation coinage by columnist Joseph Kraft. While many of us were comparing "heartland" to "Sun Belt" (columnist Kevin Phillips) to "Frost Belt" (both belts were derived from Menckens' "Bible Belt"), an old show-biz phrase slipped in to take over the characterization of the masses by the elitists: Out There.

I think the phrase was popularized in the 1930s with "all you folks out there in radioland." Another source might be Australian, from the Outback, wilderness (now a wilderness area).

The central element of Out There is the conscious separation between a speaker and the group to which he is speaking, or, if he is even admiringly, refers. As in any lumping together of a proletariat, the phrase drips with condescension. The speaker is obviously happy to be in Here.

ALEXANDER V. ARENO of New York springs to the defense of publishers who call their books "a good read":

"Are we not dealing here with gerunds minus the 'ing' suffix?" he says, coming up with a good ask. "Do not archaeologists say that they are going on a dig? When athletes get together to compete with each other, is not the event called a meet? On a hot summer afternoon at the beach, would one not be tempted to go for a swim? In slang, an elaborate social event can be referred to as a do."

I am aware of the good buy and its successor, the real steel, and of Rudyard Kipling's "And a woman is only a woman, but a good cigar is a good cigar," after a quick study over which many feminists had a good cry.

The use of verbs as nouns, and vice versa, is as old as the hills; it can be used in moderation or with originality, but becomes objectionable when used to excess.

To those who, like me, reject "a good read," let me commend the ridicule implicit in Chicagoan Jim O'Leary's observation that "an Irish wale could be considered a good grief," and Frederic A. Woolf's television criticism: "Big Valley" was a bad view, while "60 Minutes" is usually a fine watch."

Beware of too much of a good thing. *New York Times Service*

Tristan and Mehta

By Donal Henahan

NEW YORK — Strange, isn't it, how the Wagner question refuses to die. No other composer raises temperatures so high or sets off such awful rows and vendettas even among people whose interest in music is otherwise close to nil. That, of course, is because on other composer's music is so permeated with his political and social beliefs, so dominated by his view of the world. Strange, again, that such a composer should have arisen in and come to stand for Germany, which had established itself as the guardian of the idea of music as a branch of abstract thought. Bach's fugues (not the cantatas or the passions, of course), epitomize this concept of musical purity. Then Beethoven came along to strain that mold, and Wagner shattered it. Music and philosophy became intertwined throughout Europe in the 19th century and have never come unentangled.

That is why, when Zubin Mehta decided, on principle, that it was time to end the 43-year-old boycott by the Israel Philharmonic against the music of Wagner, violence broke out in Tel Aviv. Some Israelis decided, also on principle, that they didn't want to host anything but this famous anti-Semite and pet composer of the Nazis. They decided, furthermore, to disrupt two entire performances of the Prelude and Love Death from "Tristan und Isolde," so that other listeners who chose to stay to hear the piece, again on principle, would be unable to do so. At the second concert, Mehta gave up after two measures had been played, because the anti-Wagnerites demonstrated so loudly.

Mehta explained that he acted out of a love for Wagner's music as well as a love for Israel, where he is regarded as an adopted son. If for the moment he came out the loser in this confrontation of principled people, he did force thought about the whole question of music as an extension of politics. Mehta, like many other musicians who love Wagner's music, had a decision to make and he voted as a musical idealist — almost, you might say, as a German.

The musical idealist's contention — a contention that tradi-

tionally has been considered the sole German stand — that that something which we call art always tends or aspires to the state of anonymity. The idealist can have no concern about whether the authors of the "Hitler" or "The Well-Tempered Clavier" or "Measure for Measure" were good people or bad, whether they were kind to dogs or stole from the poor box. Life is brief but art endures, and all that.

Beyond Rational Objections

Carrying out that Walter Pater-like concept, we see that Israeli audiences would have a duty to hear the "Tristan" music, just as Mehta would have a duty to play it. Why? Because "Tristan" is, beyond all rational objections, important and enduring music, great art by any definition but the most obviously parochial. It must, then, be spread through the world by music's missionaries, and dispensed to everyone, like vitamins or antibiotics.

But Israel, though it has been called a state of mind as well as a state in the more usual sense, exists in the real, non-abstract world. And so, at least for the time being, do Wagner's music and the specter of his person. Mehta was perfectly right to try to play the "Tristan" excerpts; his only mistake was in not waiting another 30 years or so.

A Craven View

The fact is that while the generation that lived through the '30s and '40s is still able to walk and talk, Wagner will not have an entirely clean bill of health. Those who are remnants of that period may be enchanted by his music, but they will never be completely free of a sense of uneasiness, a feeling almost of contamination. Mehta is too young to feel that, except empathetically, as the sensitive artist he is.

The Concept of Musical Purity Vs. the Beliefs of the Composer



Composer Richard Wagner

The irony is that Wagner himself became a musical idealist in his later years. He expressly contradicted the view he had championed in "Opera and Drama," a polemic that had "stressed the primacy of poetry in the synthesis of music and words." Decca Watson puts it in a new biography published by Schirmer Books, "Richard Wagner." Ten years after rallying literary circles to his banner with "Opera and Drama," Wagner discovered Schopenhauer, whose contention was that music is entirely independent from any text or stage action.

The man who had persuaded half of Europe's literary men that words should dominate music — as if they needed persuading — now flip-flopped. For most of the remainder of his career he composed like a Schopenhauer disciple and thus a true German: in "Tristan," for instance, he put so little emphasis on the text that the whole of Act 2 could be sung in vocalise without much distortion or misrepresentation of its essential ecstatic meaning.

Whenever the problem of politics and art arises, it is as if always does and always will, hard words are sure to be spoken. But it helps to remember that nothing is true or false in the abstract, and that context shades every situation.

The Reluctant King

Throughout most of his career as general manager of the Metropolitan Opera, for example, Rudolf Bing showed a marked reluctance to engage artists whose careers had been tainted by association with the Nazis. That owl strikes a younger generation as absurd — a case of cutting off the Metropolitan's nose to spite the Master Race. But Bing had lived through a traumatic period in European history and so had most of the Metropolitan's audience: to ask them to adopt an Olympian, idealistic view of certain German musicians would have been to ignore the fact that art, like politics, can only be an abstraction in retrospect. In other words, Homer, Bach and Shakespeare are old enough to be considered politically impotent and artistically pure. Wagner evidently is not. Mehta's brave experiment proved that.

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